

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the production of a tubular article resulting from joining by insertion a tubular body (a) possessed of a layer comprised of a thermoplastic resin composition (A) containing a mixture of a styrene type elastomer and a polyolefin type resin and a tubular body (b) comprised of a thermoplastic resin composition (B) containing a polyolefin, comprising:

a step of interposing an absorbent having an absorption wavelength of 700 - 2,500 nm on the tubular body (a) and/or the tubular body (b) to form an interposed part of absorbent,

a step of connecting by mutual insertion the tubular body (a) and the tubular body (b),
and

a step of causing the interposed part of absorbent to adhere by irradiation with a laser beam, thereby forming the tubular article having a thin tube and a thick tube,

wherein the thin tube comprises ~~one of the tubular body (a) and the tubular body (b)~~, and the thick tube comprises ~~the other of the tubular body (a) and the tubular body (b)~~,

wherein prior to the mutual insertion, a ratio of an outside diameter of the thin tube and an inside diameter of the thick tube (outside diameter of thin tube/inside diameter of thick tube = X) is in the range of $1 < X < 1.25$, and

wherein the storage elastic modulus of the tubular body (a) is in the range of 1.0×10^7 - 6.7×10^8 Pa, the storage elastic modulus of the tubular body (b) is in the range of 2×10^7 - $9 \times$

10^8 Pa, and the storage elastic modulus of the tubular body (b) is higher than that of the tubular body (a).

2. (Original) A method for the production of a tubular article according to claim 1, wherein the tubular body (a) is a laminated body of not less than two layers and the composition of the connected part thereof adhering to the tubular body (b) is comprised of a thermoplastic resin composition (A) containing a styrene type elastomer and a polyolefin type resin.

3. (Original) A method for the production of a tubular article according to claim 1, wherein the haze value of the tubular body (a) is not more than 40 % and the haze value of the tubular body (b) is not more than 85 %.

4. (Original) A method for the production of a tubular article according to claim 1, wherein the content of the styrene type elastomer in the thermoplastic resin composition (A) containing the styrene type elastomer and the polyolefin type resin is in the range of 5 - 85 % by weight.

5. (Original) A method for the production of a tubular article according to claim 1, wherein the rate of content of the polyolefin in the thermoplastic resin composition (B) containing the polyolefin is in the range of 20 - 100 % by weight.

6. (Original) A method for the production of a tubular article according to claim 1, wherein the styrene type elastomer is comprised of an aromatic vinyl polymer block and a conjugated diene type polymer block.

7. (Original) A method for the production of a tubular article according to claim 6, wherein the aromatic vinyl polymer block is comprised of polystyrene or poly- α -methyl styrene and the conjugated diene type polymer block is comprised of polyisoprene, an isoprene/butadiene copolymer, polybutadiene, or the hydrogenated product thereof.

8. (Original) A method for the production of a tubular article according to claim 6, wherein the conjugated diene type polymer block is any of the following members (1) - (3):

(1) the polyisoprene having contents of 1,2-bond unit and 3,4-bond unit both in the range of 10 - 75 mol % and having hydrogenated not less than 70 % of a carbon-carbon double bonds,

(2) the isoprene-butadiene copolymer containing isoprene and butadiene at a ratio in the of range of 5/95 - 95/5 (mass ratio), having contents of 1,2-bond unit and 3,4-bond unit both in the range of 20 -85 mol %, and having hydrogenated not less than 70 % of a carbon-carbon double bonds, and

(3) the polybutadiene having a content of 1,2-bond unit of not less than 45 mol % and having hydrogenated not less than 70 % of a carbon-carbon double bond.

9. (Original) A method for the production of a tubular article according to claim 1, wherein the polyolefin type resin comprising the tubular body (a) and/or the tubular body (b) contains polypropylene resin and/or polyethylene resin.

10. (Original) A method for the production of a tubular article according to claim 1, wherein the absorbent is one or more members selected from the group consisting of

phthalocyanine, cyanine, aminium, imonium, squalium, polymethine, anthraquinone, carbon black, and coating materials for plastics.